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THE PROPOSED AQUATIC PARK AT BLACK POINT COVE.

The Recreation League has worked consistently for four years for this project. There now seems to be every prospect of a successful issue.

Annual Report of the

Recreation League

of San Francisco, May, 1916

Being the Annual Number of the
RECREATION LEAGUE BULLETIN
Volume III, Number 10

Offices 1058-60 Phelan Building
Telephone Douglas 1557

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1916-1917

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Membership . . ..ADOLF KOSHLAND
Ways and Means.....ALEXANDER RUSSELL

SECTIONS AND CHAIRMEN

Aquatic . . ..WALTER MACARTHUR
Art . . ..LOUIS CHRISTIAN MULLGARDT
Boys . . ..DR. GEORGE H. RICHARDSON
Commercialized Recreation.....MRS. LOUIS HERZ
Dance Hall.....MISS ALICIA MOSGROVE
Drama-Pageant.....MRS. D. E. F. EASTON
Girls . . ..MRS. RICHARD NEWMAN
Legislative . . ..CHARLES De Y. ELKUS
Music . . ..REDFERN MASON
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School Recreation and Athletics.....FRED W. KOCH
Social Center.....GEORGE C. TURNER

The Recreation League of San Francisco

Telephone Douglas 1557 **1058-1060 Phelan Building**

The Past Year in Brief

GENERAL—EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. Held National Congress on Recreation at P. P. I. E. in conjunction with Municipal Commissions of the Bay Cities.
2. Formed special committee to promote community singing.
3. Formed special committee to study question of closing streets for play.
4. Furnished 48 lectures to affiliated and other organizations.
5. Held 15 conferences on matters of public welfare.
6. Held 7 luncheon meetings on recreation topics.
7. Provided office space in which 285 meetings of recreation organizations were held.
8. Published four page monthly bulletin for information of members.
9. Maintained library on recreation and supplied information on the subject to hundreds of persons and organizations.

AQUATIC SECTION

1. Worked for exchange of city lands to secure Black Point Cove for an Aquatic Park without a bond issue.
2. Held weekly meetings and many conferences with Supervisors, Harbor Commissioners, Army Officers, etc.

BOYS' SECTION

1. Held monthly meetings of boys' workers to discuss topics of special interest.
2. Organized camp for 22 boys in Lake County in co-operation with U. S. Forestry Service.
3. Secured Kentfield Stadium as a week-end camping site for city boys and provided camp equipment.
4. Organized a dramatic competition of original plays for boys.
5. Aided Canon Kip Mission, Y. M. H. A., Boys Club Athletic League, Boy Scouts of America and Columbia Park Boys' Club in promoting their work.

COMMERCIALIZED RECREATION SECTION

1. Assisted California Club on Motion Picture Ordinance.

DANCE HALL SECTION

1. Led fight against an unfit manager for the Civic Auditorium.

DRAMA-PAGEANT SECTION

1. Sponsored Children's Theater.
2. Aided Mount Tamalpais Play Association.
3. Co-operated with Drama League in movement for the Civic Shakespeare Tercentenary Celebration.

GIRLS' SECTION

1. Held Second Annual Conference of Girls' Workers, March 24-25, 1916.
2. Held monthly discussion meetings for members.
3. Arranged schedules for Sunday walks.
4. Furnished musical programs to Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Association, Emanu-El Sisterhood and Canon Kip Mission.
5. Secured special rates for girls at the People's Orchestra concerts.
6. Formed two rowing crews to spread this sport among girls.
7. Obtained reduced rates for swimming groups at Sutro Baths.

LEGISLATIVE SECTION

1. Assisted Dance Hall Section in Auditorium matter.
2. Assisted Commercialized Recreation Section in motion picture matter.

SCHOOL RECREATION AND ATHLETICS

1. Plan of mail competition inaugurated by this Section is adopted by California Interscholastic Federation.
2. Statistical studies made to determine what the average normal high school boy ought to be able to do in athletic events.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SINGING

1. Drew up plans for organization of classes in various sections of the city.
2. Did preliminary work in starting five of these classes.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON STREET PLAY

1. In co-operation with University students made studies of street play in seven sections of the city.
2. Concluded it was unwise to close streets for play until all school yards and vacant city property had been used for play purposes.

A MESSAGE TO THE LEAGUE

To the Members and Friends of the
Recreation League of San Francisco.

Dear Friends:

"Au revoir." The Playground and Recreation Association of America recognizing the good work of the Recreation League of San Francisco has called your Secretary East.

Permit me to thank you all for your co-operation and service. The League's success has been big because of its many friends. We have earned a distinct niche in the civic life of this, our beloved San Francisco. Each year our good work has become more valuable and indispensable.

Keep up the good work! You have a good organization, a splendid scheme with an excellent group of officers. Support Eustace M. Peixotto, who is true and able, and a real friend to the League.

Greetings to all and best wishes for the continued success of the League, I remain,

Your humble servant,
JAMES EDWARD ROGERS.

The Affiliated Organizations of the League

Army and Navy Y. M. C. A.
Canon Kip Memorial Mission
Council No. 1, A. T. C.
Council No. 2, A. T. C.
Council No. 9, A. T. C.
Council No. 10, A. T. C.
Associated Charities of San Francisco
Bay Cities Physical Education Association
Bay Shore District Improvement Club
Bay View Improvement Club
Bay View Mothers' Club
Boys' and Girls' Aid Society
Boys' Club Athletic League of San Francisco
Brittania Lodge No. 7, Order Daughters of St. George
Bush Street Temple
California Club
Calvary Presbyterian Church
Central Methodist Episcopal Church
Children's Theater
Civic League of Improvement Clubs of San Francisco
Civic Section of Corona Club
Columbia Park Boys' Club
Council of Jewish Women
Divisadero Street Improvement Association
Dolores Mothers' Club
Dolphin Swimming and Boating Club
Drama League of America
Emanuel Kindergarten
Emanu-El Sisterhood for Personal Service
Exposition Valley Improvement Club
Girls' Club
Girls' Recreation Club
Golden Gate Kindergarten Association
Good Government League
Grattan Mothers' Club
Horace Mann Mothers' Club
Jewish Religious Schools Athletic League
Jordan Park Improvement Club
Juvenile Protective Association
Laguna Honda Mothers' and Teachers' Club
McKinley School Mothers' Club
Monroe School Mothers' Club
Mothers' Club, South Park Settlement
Mothers' Club, Roosevelt School
Mountain Play Association
New Era League of California
North Beach Promotion Association
North of Panhandle Improvement Company
Nurses' Settlement
Occidental Kindergarten Association
Pacific Association of the Amateur Athletic Union
Pacific Association of Amateur Oarsmen
People's Place
Philomath Club
Public Schools Athletic League of San Francisco
San Francisco Athletic League
San Francisco Center of California Civic League
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
San Francisco Choral Society
San Francisco Colony No. 10, of New England Women
San Francisco Commercial Club
San Francisco Congress of Mothers
San Francisco Fruit and Flower Mission
San Francisco Labor Council
San Francisco Nursery for Homeless Children
San Francisco Society for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis
Seamen's Institute
Social Workers' Alliance
South End Rowing Club
Southern Promotion Association
South of Army Street Improvement Club
South Park Settlement Mothers' Club
Spring Valley Mothers' Club
St. Stephen's Mothers' Club
Sunset Street Congregational Church
Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Association
Telegraph Improvement Club
Tokalon Club
Women's Outdoor Club
Women's Christian Temperance Union
Women's Political Study League of the Thirty-fourth Assembly District
Yerba Buena School Mothers' Club
Young Men's Christian Association
Young Women's Christian Association
Young Women's Hebrew Association

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

THE first task that we should impose upon ourselves on convening at this our annual meeting is to critically investigate the record of the past year with a view to determining if that record justifies the continuance of the League's existence. Not that there is in the mind of any of us any doubt as to the importance, to the welfare of the community, of play and recreation, whatever our own accomplishments. The more intensively we study the problems of social service, the more vital we believe the need of wholesome recreation. Indeed, we have convinced ourselves that recreation is as necessary to good citizenship as sunlight to the flower.

With this idea of retrospection in mind, I have tried to divest myself of the enthusiasm which association with the workers in our League always arouses in me, so that in a calm, dispassionate mood I might come to a right conclusion as to whether or not we are performing our task. I have reviewed the minutes of our monthly meetings—have weighed the reports from our various Sections—have recalled the things actually accomplished by the League during the year—and finally have marshaled the things now in process of accomplishment. One cannot do this without feeling the utmost pride in membership in this wonderful organization, tempered only by a sobering sense of responsibility, as we realize how ambitious and ramified are its activities.

I know that the League has become a great instrument for good in the community—that all allied associations feel a sense of security in having the co-operation of the League—so that I welcome you to this meeting and to this new year with a feeling of satisfaction and hopefulness that I trust will prove contagious to you all.

The reports of the Secretary and Chairmen of Sections will furnish the details, and these will come more appropriately from them than from me, not only because of their greater competency to accurately give the desired information, but especially because that method will serve to give the credit where credit is due.

There will be one jarring note in this report. It must register the resignation of James Edward Rogers, who has been the Secretary of the League from its inception—leaving us (let us hope only temporarily) to accept a well-deserved promotion to a wider field of usefulness in cognate lines. He has during all these years given us the best that is in him without a single dollar of compensation and given it to us enthusiastically and from his very heart. I would feel that his going away would be disastrous to the Association if his very worthy successor, Mr. Eustace Peixotto, had not in the same spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion to the cause, come to our rescue.

Finally, permit me to speak a word of a personal nature. The League has honored me year by year with the great dignity of its presidency. The incumbency in that office has been one of the most satisfactory and profitable experiences of my life. I mean in any event to give to the League as long as I live whatever of value there may be in me. I will not anticipate the report of your Nominating Committee, but, assuming that they may have concluded to recommend my reappointment, I earnestly bring to the attention of the League the wisdom of making some change. There are so many splendid elements in the League that there would be no trouble to find one much better suited than myself to fill the position of President; but even if this were not so, I am a great believer in rotation in office, and new and younger blood, involving, as it would, a new shuffle of the cards, would provide a stimulating and invigorating influence, of which we should not fail to avail ourselves.

My valedictory would be, as it is in any event, an expression of the hope that the Recreation League may fulfill its destiny to be one of the great uplifting forces in this beautiful community of ours, making for health and happiness and usefulness—a militant champion of humanity.

JESSE W. LILIENTHAL, President.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

THE Recreation League has had another most active and successful year. It has been busier and more serviceable, and that is saying a great deal.

The League has served this City as a clearing house for many of the constructive, social and civic organizations of this City. The Sections have all been active, especially the Aquatic, Boys' and Girls' Sections; holding meetings as often as once a week, and regular meetings once a month. Altogether, counting general meetings, luncheons, section and committee meetings, the League has held 285 meetings.

The League has furnished forty-eight lectures, some illustrated, to the different organizations of the City, upon request, and has frequently co-operated with other organizations in their programs. Fifteen conferences have been held on matters of public welfare and 286 consultations with individuals on matters of civic importance. The library of the League still continues to grow and is now in pamphlet form, at least, the best library on the Coast on recreational topics.

During the past year the following organizations have affiliated:

Spring Valley Mothers' Club, Young Women's Hebrew Association, Emanu-El Sisterhood for Personal Service, Pacific Association of Amateur Oarsmen, making a total of 83 organizations affiliated with the League.

The following affiliated organizations have their offices in the rooms of the League: Pacific Athletic Association, Lincoln Park Golf Club, Mount Tamalpais Play Association, Basketball Referees Union, Drama League of America, San Francisco Choral Society, Pacific Amateur Oarsmen's Association, Children's Theater, Dolphin Swimming & Boating Club, and the San Francisco Athletic League.

The League is rapidly growing in membership. Our present subscribers number about 450. The League loses very few members. Active spreading of the good work results in a constantly increasing membership.

Of the many achievements of the past year special mention should be made of the following:

1. The holding of the Second Annual Girls' Conference at the St. Francis Hotel, March 24th and 25th, 1916.

2. The establishment of the Community Singing Section and the organization of groups for the establishment of choral and mass singing.

3. The establishment at Kentfield of the Social Recreation Center for outings, camps and week-end trips for the boys and girls of the City.

4. Active co-operation with the P. P. I. E. in holding of Congresses, especially the Congress on Recreation.

5. The successful operation of the Boys' Camp on Bear Creek, south of the Eel River, 58 miles from Ukiah, in co-operation with the U. S. Forestry Service.

6. The active work of the Aquatic Section in presenting to the Board of Supervisors plans whereby the City may exchange land for the establishment of a people's recreation beach.

Besides these direct activities of the League, we have actively co-operated with the Boys' Club Athletic League, the Social Workers' Alliance, Canon Kip Mission, the San Francisco Athletic League, Bay View Mothers' Club, Chamber of Commerce, and many other organizations.

The League has been in constant touch and co-operation with the civic authorities, especially the school, park and playground boards and the department of physical education, social centers and lectures, Board of Education.

The League has served in the celebration of all our civic holidays and has had representatives as active workers on all such committees appointed by the Mayor. The League has been the home of the annual celebration of Columbus Day.

The League has made recreational surveys and has afforded recreational

opportunities, especially to girls and boys. The advice, aid and service of the League has been sought by many individuals and organizations. The League has taken a share in the Mountain Play Celebration, the work of the Children's Theater, the San Francisco Choral Society, the Symphony Orchestras.

During the past year the League has been in the position to extend many courtesies, to not only all of our affiliated organizations, but to many of the civic organizations of the City.

From this brief synopsis, it is clearly seen that the League has had its hands full and all signs point to the fact that the coming year of 1916-1917 will be fuller. There will, therefore, be more need of active co-operation and an increase in membership to guarantee the League its financial support.

The most remarkable thing about the League is that it has been able to accomplish all of these things in full co-operation with other organizations and as a clearing house for them on such a small annual income from our memberships. This no doubt is largely due to the fact that we have no paid officials and that all leaders and chairmen have been unstinted in their labors for the League and San Francisco.

JAMES EDWARD ROGERS, Secretary.

Learning to Fight Forest Fires at the Recreation League's Boys' Camp in Connection With the U. S. Bureau of Forestry.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts, Expenditures from April 1, 1915 to April 1, 1916:

Cash on hand April 1, 1915		$ 146.47
Rent account	$ 768.00	
Postage account	298.28	
Stationery account	231.18	
Office furniture	12.20	
Recreation monthly Bulletin	158.26	
Clerical help	660.00	
Telephone, telegraph, general expense	437.92	
Cash on hand April 1, 1916	310.39	
Income account		2,729.86
	$2,876.33	$2,876.33

CUTLER PAIGE, Treasurer.

REPORTS OF SECTIONS AND COMMITTEES

AQUATIC SECTION

Walter MacArthur, Chairman

The proposition for an exchange of lands owned by the City and the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, respectively, for the purpose of establishing an Aquatic Park, is now pending in the Board of Supervisors. Several hearings have been held and favorable action is shortly expected.

The principal point at issue in the matter is that of the relative values of the lands in question. It appears that there is a difference in favor of the City's land in the vicinity of the Channel, as compared with the Company's land at the foot of Van Ness Avenue.

The Aquatic Section believes that this difference is very largely offset by the difference in the usefulness of the respective lands. The land owned by the Company is more useful to the City than is the land owned by the latter. The City's land is valuable chiefly for revenue-producing purposes. This, of course, is an important consideration. But the value of the Company's land for the purpose of an Aquatic Park is an even higher consideration.

The need of revenue may be met by various means, but the site at Black Point Cove is the only one available for the particular purpose in view. Unless this site be acquired the people must forego all hope of establishing in San Francisco a suitable place of resort for those who wish to enjoy water sports.

The Aquatic Section has received much valuable assistance from the members of the Recreation League. It has also received the endorsement of many civic bodies. The rowing and yachting clubs have been especially active in promoting the plan. We are sincerely thankful for this assistance, and earnestly bespeak a continuation thereof, in the confident belief that our labors for the establishment of an Aquatic Park will shortly be crowned with complete success.

BOYS' SECTION

Eustace M. Peixotto, Chairman

Following the determination arrived at at the Conference of Boys' Workers held in December, 1914, the Boys' Section has continued to hold monthly meetings during the past year. At each meeting some particular topic has been discussed and many of these discussions have led to definite plans of work.

Following is an outline of the meetings:

August 19, 1915—Discussion of "The Problem of the Boy" by the Section and talks on the subject by two well known Eastern Experts, C. J. Atkinson, Executive Secretary of the National Federation of Boys' Clubs, and Philip Davis of Boston, Secretary of the Committee on the Study of the Boy, National Federation of Settlements.

September 23, 1915—Discussion of answers to questionaire on "Adolescent Boy" as presented by Mr. Philip Davis for National Federation of Settlements.

October 21, 1915—Discussion: "Sensible Dramatics for Boys," by Mrs. D. E. F. Easton, Sidney S. Peixotto and other members of the Section.

November 18, 1915—Topic: "Sex Education for Boys," S. Wiley Winsor, Boys' Physical Director, Y. M. C. A. spoke on "A Sex Talk to Boys." Mr. Thomas D. Eliot, Field Secretary, American Social Hygiene Association, gave a short address on "The Social Hygiene Movement."

January 20, 1916—Topic: "What Are the Most Vital Pressing Needs in Boys' Work in San Francisco?" Discussion led by Mr. Raymond O. Hansen of the Y. M. C. A.

February 24, 1916—Mr. Carl Peterson, of the Emporium, addressed the Section on "The Needs and Opportunities of the Working Boy."

March 16, 1916—Conference asked for by the Rev. J. Henry Oehlhoff of the Canon Kip Mission for advice and assistance in his boys' work.

March 30, 1916—Special meeting with Mr. Louis Brenner, Field Secretary National Council Young Men's Hebrew Association, for purpose of recommending a wider scope for the local institution.

The Camp Committee of the Boys' Section, composed of Dr. G. H. Richardson, Chairman, Rev. D. O. Crowley, Raymond O. Hansen, George C. Turner, Sidney S. Peixotto and Eustace M. Peixotto, has been active in its efforts during the past year to enable more boys to enjoy the benefits of camp life in organized groups. During the summer vacation last year, the Committee arranged to send twenty-two boys under the leadership of Harry Tiedemann and Elmer Brown to the California forest about thirty miles from Ukiah, where they were taught much of the lore of the woods under the tutelage of the United States Forest officers, this camp being arranged in co-operation with the Bureau of Forestry. At the present writing there is every prospect that this camp will be continued during the summer and that this feature of

the work inaugurated by the Recreation League can be turned over in future years to be perpetuated through the agency of the Boy Scouts of America, to whom it naturally belongs.

This same Committee has arranged during the year for the use of the Stadium at Kentfield, Marin County, as a week-end camping site for groups of city boys. The Trustees of the Stadium, the Tamalpais Woman's Club and last but not least Mr. and Mrs. William Kent, have been most enthusiastic over the prospect of this type of utilization of the plant so generously donated to the people of Marin County by Honorable William Kent, who is, by the way, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Playground and Recreation Association of America.

Over seventy boys camped at Kentfield during the April vacation. Many of the boys' organizations of San Francisco have promised to avail themselves of the opportunities of the site. The Playground Commission was appealed to to provide leaders to take over unorganized groups of boys to this site and the Committee is hoping for a favorable reply.

The Dramatic Committee, composed of Raymond O. Hansen, Chairman, Sidney S. Peixotto and Joseph Bonapart, is planning during the year to hold a competition for original boys' plays. Three organizations have signified their intention of entering this competition, but the Committee has decided that it will be wise to postpone the actual contest until after the summer.

The members of the Section feel keenly that the greatest need in boys' work

Boys Clearing the Site for the Week-End Camp at Kentfield.

today in San Francisco is men who will devote a certain amount of time to leadership. The boys are craving organized activities. It is unsafe to organize these activities without adult supervision and the men at present interested are far too few to adequately meet the demands of the youngsters. The Section is taking advantage of every opportunity to call for help in this matter.

DRAMA-PAGEANT SECTION

Mrs. D. E. F. Easton, Chairman

The Drama Section of the League had a busy year. As last year, its chief interest is the promotion of the Children's Theater, with a new field, "Better Films for Children."

The Section is in full co-operation with the annual event on Mt. Tamalpais. The production for this year will be the drama of "William Tell," on May 28, 1916. The Mountain Play Association is the owner of the property on which these plays are produced. Last year Hon. William Kent, the then owner, deeded the wonderful and magnificent amphitheatre on Mt. Tamalpais to four trustees, to be held forever for

this purpose. This most valuable gift to the Mountain Play Association will be dedicated to the production of one mountain play annually.

Through the San Francisco Drama League, the Section is co-operating with the Drama League of America, with offices in Chicago. Through the efforts of the local Center, Lady Gregory was induced to come to San Francisco for the purpose of giving one lecture on the Irish Theater Movement. The most important result of the work accomplished during the year was the initiative work done in the celebration of the Shakespeare Tercentenary, in bringing this nation-wide movement before the Board of Supervisors, who passed a resolution requesting the Mayor of San Francisco to appoint a civic committee. This committee of one hundred representative men and women of this City carried to fruition the first public celebration of community interest held in the Civic Center, by honoring the memory of the "Dean of the English Language," on April 23, 1916.

The Children's Theater is still in the experimental stage, still looking for the subsidy of an audience of children through the efforts of the parents of San Francisco. That the children want just this sort of entertainment has been definitely proven by those who have attended. The "Better Films" were received with much enthusiastic applause by the audience. This movement is still in its theoretical stage, therefore not practical enough to interest all in order to make it self-supporting. The music from the orchestra received special attention. Such selections from the operas that would be pleasing to children were given and received with applause.

GIRLS' SECTION

Mrs. Richard Newman, Chairman

In submitting my annual report as Chairman of the Girls' Section, I am pleased to state that the scope of the work of the Girls' Section has broadened during the past year. Two most gratifying facts are that we have added several important new names to our list and that all members both old and new have shown a keen interest to co-operate in solving the recreation problems for the girls of San Francisco.

Our augmented Board now consists of representatives from People's Place Settlement, Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Settlement, Girls' Club, Girls' Recreation Club, Young Women's Christian Association, Young Women's Hebrew Association, Emanu-El Sisterhood, representatives from the Emporium, H. Liebes & Co., Juvenile Protective Association, Juvenile Court, San Francisco Hospital, School Department and Playground Commission of San Francisco.

The work of the Section is two-fold. It deals with the problems presented by the various groups and also with girls not affiliated with any particular group but belonging to the business world. For the latter class a leader is appointed and the Section gives these girls everything it has to offer.

The Second Annual Conference of the Girls' Section, held in March, did much to encourage us in our work for the future.

The San Francisco Girls' Swimming Association formed under the auspices of the Girls' Section is progressing. Our original agreement whereby the swimming tickets of the Girls' Section were to be honored at Sutro's Baths is still valid; the rates for us being 25 cents instead of 40 cents on week days and evenings and 30 cents instead of 40 cents on Sundays and holidays. About eighty girls are availing themselves of this opportunity.

A hiking schedule has been submitted by our Miss O'Rourke of the Girls' Club. The walks are planned for every other Sunday during the months of May, June, July and August. Since the majority of the hikes take place in the near vicinity of the City, the price is minimum and the distance to be covered never too great for the amateur.

During the last month the Girls' Section has on various occasions furnished musical programs to the different groups; such as the Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Settlement, Emanu-El Sisterhood, Canon Kip Mission and others. Through the courtesy of Mr. G. Minetti, Director of the San Francisco People's Orchestra, the Section secured special rates for the five concerts given at the Civic Auditorium; price per concert 18 cents instead of 25 cents.

A rowing project has been launched by the Girls' Section. Mr. Gutleben, Superintendent of the Municipal Boat House of Oakland, has aided us greatly in the preliminaries. Miss Sheffield, Chairman of our Rowing Committee, and her sister have kindly consented to teach the girls. Two rowing crews, under the able leadership of Miss Emma Noonan and Miss O'Rourke, will experiment and report to us.

Through the efforts of Mrs. Erickson, one of our new members, we hope to secure special rates to Mt. Tamalpais at some fixed date in June.

Although the Girls' Section has suspended its monthly meetings until September, the Section through its Chairman will be glad to co-operate with anyone during the summer months.

LEGISLATIVE SECTION

Charles De Y. Elkus, Chairman

The Legislative Section has done very little work this year. It has co-operated with the Dance Hall Section in connection with the Civic Auditorium difficulties and it has likewise co-operated with the California Club in connection with the fight of the Censorship.

Otherwise there is nothing to report.

CHORAL SECTION

Raymond A. Belinge, Chairman

The San Francisco Choral Society became the Choral Section of the League, in March, 1915. Owing to the great number of musical attractions at the Exposition, no attempt was made to give any concert during the past season. The Society, however, continued its activity by participating in the successful performance of Elgar's famous oratorio, "The Dream of Gerontius," which was given at the Civic Auditorium, and Rossini's "Stabat Mater," in the Greek Theater at the University of California. The Society has now in rehearsal, "The Crusaders," by Neils Gade, for presentation on May 26, 1916. The membership is in good condition, numbering over 100 trained voices, and there is also a small balance in the treasury, which, however, will be insufficient to pay for the next concert. The thanks of the Section are presented to Mr. James Edward Rogers, Secretary of the League; Mrs. M. L. Vaughn, Assistant Secretary, and Mr. Paul Steindorff, Musical Director, for their great assistance.

SCHOOL RECREATION AND ATHLETICS

Fred Koch, Chairman

As Chairman of the Committee on High School Athletics, I wish to report that the work done during the past year has been a continuation of that begun two years ago, namely, along the lines of increasing the number of boys interested in High School sports, and offering opportunities for greater numbers taking part in actual competitive games.

During the fall months a contest was conducted by mail covering some twenty schools reaching from Arcata to Pasadena. In these contests, the average of each school was taken, laying the emphasis on group records rather than individual stars. Over 600 boys took part, a large number being from this city.

The results of these competitions are being tabulated, so that we now are in a position to state about what a normal boy of each of the weight groups might be expected to do. The success of this system is seen particularly at the Lowell High School, where these record sheets are posted, and are constantly being scanned by boys anxious to know whether they are up to the normal average of boys of their own weight.

The system of contests by mail for all boys, as instituted by us, has now been taken up by the California Inter-Scholastic Federation, covering most of the schools throughout the State, outside of San Francisco.

It is encouraging to hear that they give full credit to San Francisco as the originator of the idea.

The weight system has now been generally extended to all the High Schools of San Francisco, this year seeing the addition of two new weights—the 110-pound and the 130-pound to the classes.

To show the growth of athletics in the City High Schools, I might add that this year Lowell has about 150 boys registered for inter-school competition, about 25 per cent of all the boys in the school. This does not mean that 25 per cent of the boys take part in games, but that 25 per cent are considered good enough to compete on championship teams. I should estimate that 75 per cent of all Lowell boys take an active interest in some form of sport.

The total registration of the ten schools in San Francisco in the San Francisco League is about 800 this year. This, as in the case at Lowell, means boys good enough for inter-school competition.

The work of your Chairman has been very pleasant, but the clerical duties are almost more than one man can attend to.

During the fall season we were greatly assisted by Mr. E. B. DeGroot, who helped us in matters of typewriting and posting of circular letters to the various schools. I wish to state my appreciation of this assistance.

PROGRAM AND RECEPTION COMMITTEE

Mrs. E. L. Baldwin, Chairman

The work of this Committee has been to present speakers and guests at the regular monthly meetings at luncheon, and to provide the program for such evening meetings as may be decided upon by the Executive Board, and arranged under the auspices of the Recreation League.

The speakers who have been our honored guests at the meetings during the year are as follows:

September 2, 1915, Mr. Frank L. Crone, Director of Education for the Philippine Islands, on "Athletics and Recreation in Connection with the Public School System in the Philippines."

October 7, 1915, M. M. O'Shaughnessy, Chief Engineer of the City, on "City Planning," and Walter Macarthur, on "Recreation Idea in City Planning."

November 4, 1915, Dr. Richard D. Boone, Professor of Education, University of California, on "Recreation as a Civic Asset"; also Mr. Robert K. Atkinson, connected with the Russell Sage Foundation, spoke on the development of the recreation movement throughout the country.

December 9, 1915, "Music—Its Place in the Community Life"; speakers Mr. Redfern Mason, the late Herman Perlet, Julius Rehn Weber, Paul Steindorff, Wallace A. Sabin and Madame Tojetti.

February 3, 1916, Mr. Lyman L. Pierce, General Secretary of the Y. M. C. A., on "The Passing of the Emergency Type of Recreation."

March 9, 1916, Mrs. Ruth Fuller Field, of New York City, on "Some Recreational Work for Children."

April 13, 1916, Professor Lee Emerson Bassett on "Pageantry in Our Civic Life."

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Adolf Koshland, Chairman

Eighty new memberships were secured during the year and practically all of the old subscribers renewed. It is a proud boast that the Recreation League of San Francisco has but a few delinquents, showing how highly its work is appreciated by its contributors.

The members are classified as follows:

4	Sustaining members at	$100 a year
9	Associate members at	50 a year
24	Affiliated members at	25 a year
160	Contributing members at	5 a year
181	Memberships at	1 a year

During the coming year the Membership Committee plans to go before a number of the civic organizations to try to interest their members in joining the League as individuals.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY MUSIC

Robert Husband, Chairman

For the promotion of community singing a number of preliminary meetings were held and attended by more than a score of the musical fraternity of this City and Oakland. After a wide discussion of the subject a Committee of three, consisting of Julius Rehn Weber, Redfern Mason and Robert Husband, was appointed to report a plan of reorganization. On April 27 the Committee presented its report at a meeting held in the office of President Jesse W. Lilienthal when the report was unanimously adopted and the following named were elected as officers:

Robert Husband, Chairman,
Redfern Mason, Vice-Chairman,
Estelle Carpenter, Secretary.

The report of the Committee, above referred to, follows, and clearly expresses the object and aims of the Committee:

The San Francisco Singing Classes.

"Object: To bring into play and give artistic expression to the love of music which is latent in the breasts of all men and women. It is sought to accomplish this object by—

"(a) The encouragement of music teaching in the public schools;

"(b) By holding classes for the teaching of singing in various localities throughout the city;

"(c) By strengthening existing bodies of singers with a steady production of trained recruits, thus adding to the general choral efficiency by facilitating co-operation among the various organizations. It is hoped by this means to make for the improvement of individual choruses and render the choral element generally available for the holding of festivals.

"The teaching of music in the public schools is, of course, primarily the duty of

the educational authorities. The usefulness of the association in this particular, therefore, seems limited to benevolent criticism and suggestion.

"The focal points of our activities are the holding of district classes and the bringing together, for a common end, of existing singing societies.

"The holding of district classes stands out, above all, as the characteristic activity of the Association.

"The classes will be open to all adults, including girls over sixteen and young men over eighteen.

"No previous knowledge of music is required, and it may be taken as a general truth that only the exceptional person is lacking in a singing voice.

"A charge of ten cents per lesson will be made and the music will be furnished at wholesale prices which are so low as to be almost nominal.

"Instruction will follow the general outlines of (a) unison singing of popular songs, especially folk songs, including the learning by heart of chosen examples, both words and melodies by the classes; (b) the mastering of the elements of notation and rhythm; (c) progressive study of part singing, beginning with simple harmonized chorales and part songs and progressing gradually to the singing of numbers from oratorio and opera, and unaccompanied madrigals.

"The concurrence of the singers with the responsible directors in the choice of music will be encouraged, so that the people may play as large a part as possible in their own musical development.

"The classes will ordinarily be held if possible in the public school buildings of the city.

"The administration of the affairs of the organization is vested in the Committee called together by the Recreation League of San Francisco."

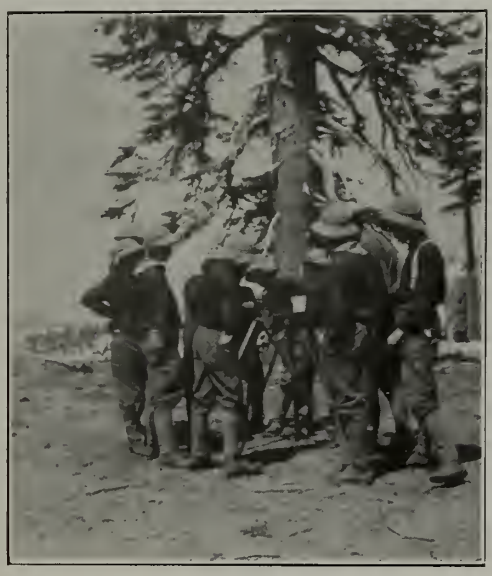
Committees have since been appointed by the Chairman to organize classes in the following Districts: "North Beach," "Mission," "Potrero," "Richmond" and for the employes of the "Emporium."

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON STREET PLAY

Mrs. Bert Schlesinger, Chairman

The Committee was appointed in response to a letter requesting the League to urge the closing of certain streets for children's play, at specified hours, in certain districts. After considerable investigation the Committee found that there were a great many vacant pieces of property belonging to the City, which might be used for play, and that many school yards were unequipped and unused after school. The Committee recommends:

1. Establishment of a play place in the outer Mission;
2. In Richmond District;
3. That Garfield Square be equipped with apparatus and developed as a play place as Hamilton Square had been, and until all these possible and available means for children's play had been fully developed, the Committee could not recommend closing our city streets for play purposes.



Map Reading 6000 Feet Up. Recreation League Forestry Camp.

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May 1, 1915 to April 30, 1916.

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COMPOSED of over seventy-five commercial, civic and philanthropic men's and women's organizations, the **Recreation League of San Francisco** represents the public conscience in matters of recreation and play. It has been instrumental in starting many movements for bettering the civic and social conditions in the community. It has multiplied recreational opportunities for young and old in all parts of the city.

The League acts as a center of intercommunication for all organizations interested in recreation in any form and makes possible co-operative effort for common ends.

Its purpose is to promote and assist organizations which further healthful sports, wholesome amusement or just plain fun.

It endeavors to discourage and attack types of recreation which in its judgment have a debasing influence on society.

It seeks to establish the importance of wholesome recreation as a part of sane living in the minds of the people and to set up high standards of recreation in the community.